

3600.6619
April 2, 2003 (11:18am)

Docket: AM-6619

Remarks

Claims 1-37 remain in the application.

In a telephone conference on April 1, 2003, the Examiner imposed a Restriction Requirement between the inventions of:

Group I – Claims 1-31;

Group II – Claims 32-35; and

Group III – Claims 36, 37.

In a further telephone conference with the Examiner on April 2, 2003, the undersigned attorney elected the invention of Group I.

The above amendments cause the non-elected claims to depend upon elected Claim 1.

The Examiner's attention is drawn to co-pending and commonly assigned patent application 09/138,429 being examined by Julian Mercado in Group 1745. This application includes claims similar to those of the present application.

The attached Form 1449 cites several U.S. patents which the Examiner believed relevant in the other application. Their official consideration is requested. The Examiner indicated that no copies of U.S. patent need be submitted to facilitate the facsimile filing of the papers.

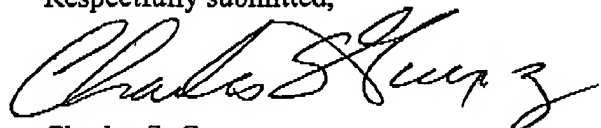
3600.6619
April 2, 2003 (11:18am)

Docket: AM-6619

In view of the above amendments and remarks, consideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number, which is on California time.

Date: 2 April 2003
Correspondence Address
Patent/Legal Dept.; M/S 2061
Applied Materials, Inc.
P.O. Box 450A
Santa Clara, CA 95052

Respectfully submitted,



Charles S. Guenzer
Registration No. 30,640
(650) 566-8040

FAX RECEIVED

APR 03 2003

GROUP 1700